

FILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Art Unit: 3754

ROBERT G. RANI

Examiner: N. Khaira

APPLICATION NO: 10/672,318 FILED: SEPTEMBER 26, 2003

FOR: CLOSURE DEVICE FOR FLEXIBLE POUCHES

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

The Office Action of April 25, 2005 has a shortened statutory time set to expire on October 25, 2005. A three-month extension is hereby requested pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136(a).

Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis in the amount of \$1020 for payment of the extension fee. An additional copy of this paper is here enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 CFR §1.17 which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis.

Respectfully submitted,

Novartis

Corporate Intellectual Property One Health Plaza, Building 104

East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080

Date: 2500

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